

REMARKS

The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the following remarks. Support for newly added claims 59-64 can be found in the original claims 11-15. The applicant has cancelled claims 50-54. The applicant has added 5 claims and cancelled 5 claims. The applicant believes no additional fee is required for the amendment to the claims.

In response to the restriction requirement applicant hereby provisionally elects Group I, claims 30-40 and newly added claims 59-64 for continued examination, with traverse.

The Examiner requests that we elect one of the following inventions:

Group I, claim(s) 30-40, drawn to a method of carrying out an electrochemical reaction.

Group II, claim(s) 41-48, drawn to a process for production of an organic compound.

Group III, claim(s) 49-57, drawn to an organic compound salt.

Group IV, claim 58, drawn to a method of carrying out a substitution reaction.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction requirement because the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has not carried forward its burden of proof to establish distinctness.

In particular, MPEP § 803 states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding Election requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

Furthermore, the applicant believes that the search for Groups I and II would be essentially the same. The applicant believes that at least Group II should be rejoined with Group I.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 03-2775, under Order No. 05129-00090-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: December 11, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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